

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~Disclosed is a supporting system having a carrying member for carrying a workpiece thereon and a supporting mechanism for supporting the carrying member from a workpiece transfer position to a workpiece processing position, wherein, adjacent the transfer position, the weight of the carrying member and a force to be applied to the carrying member are substantially balanced, and wherein, adjacent the workpiece processing position, the weight of the carrying member and a force to be applied to the carrying member are substantially balanced.~~

-- An exposure apparatus includes a carrying member for carrying thereon a workpiece and a supporting mechanism having a magnet, for supporting a weight of the carrying member. A force to be applied to the magnet does not change with a shift of the carrying member along a plane perpendicular to a direction in which the weight is supported. --